

March 3, 2014

Subject: Please vote in favor of HB 5462: An Act Concerning Sales and Use Exemptions for Tax Shipping and Handling Charges

Dear Transportation Committee,

My name is Dianne Veley. I am the Human Resources Manager of The Siemon Company. We are a family owned business which began in 1903 in Bridgeport and moved to Watertown in the 1950's. We employ over 290 people in Connecticut and an additional 470 people globally. We have deep roots in the community and have no plans to leave Connecticut for another domestic location. However, we find ourselves in a frustrating position of frequently having to write to our state legislators about our ability to competitively compete in a global environment and to continue to employ Connecticut residents.

I am writing in response to the Sales Tax Exemption Bill. On behalf of Siemon, I strongly urge you to support HB 5462. We need to take steps right now to turn the tides and become a favorable state in which companies like ours can prosper and grow. We need to show companies that we want them to stay in Connecticut and even relocate here. Passage of this bill will be a step in the right direction.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dianne Veley

Global Human Resources Manager